

FW: COVID Mandate Protests 2022-02-04 20:00 EST

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Fyi

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Sent on behalf of Dan Badour

Bottom line/Summary:

- Social media posts indicate a potential blockade at the Ambassador Bridge on February 5, 2022.
- SOR has received credible information from the OPP that a convoy / slow roll is planned in the area of the Blue Water Bridge in Sarnia on Sunday, February 6, 2022, with potential of a blockade using farm tractors. There is significant potential that traffic coming into Canada will be impacted.
- Protests continue in Ottawa and Coutts (north of POE – no impact to CBSA POE operations).
- There are no operational impacts to CBSA ports of entry nationally.
- Additional protests are expected over the weekend as there are protests and counter-protests planned for Provincial capitals.

ONGOING	CONFIRMED	UNCONFIRMED
- Ottawa – February 4 and 5, 2022, additional protesters to arrive on Parliament Hill - Coutts – North and south bound traffic is flowing with one lane open in each direction and gates are open. US CBP is maintaining a checkpoint to meter traffic to proceed to the Primary Inspection Line. Protestors continue to line the highway north of the POE.	- Ottawa - February 5, 2022, 3 counter protests outside Ottawa Police HQ, Elgin Street - Quebec City – February 4, 2022, Freedom Convoy protest demonstrations are expected in the vicinity of the QC National Assembly buildings. Trucks have begun arriving in Quebec City. - Toronto – February 5, 2022, Freedom Convoy protest. Farm vehicles arrived in the downtown core in advance of tomorrow's protest.	CANADA: - Ottawa - Four potential demonstrations (protests and counter protests) planned for February 5, 2022 - Charlottetown – Protest to converge at cenotaph, February 5, 2022 - Windsor - Slow Roll February 4 to 6, 2022 - Across Canada - Mariners for Freedom February 4, 2022 at 13:00hrs local time. Its Facebook page has gained over 12 thousand members. - Vancouver – February 5, 2022, Freedom Convoy Protest - Victoria (PAC) – February 5, 2022. From Campbell River across Vancouver Island until reaching the parliament building in Victoria. There are reports of planned counter protests. - February 5, 2022 12:00 MT- Coutts blockade move to Edmonton US: - Washington, US Capital - February 8

		and 9, 2022, US Freedom Convoy EUROPE: Brussels - Freedom Convoy Europe 2022 (Unconfirmed)
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Enhanced vigilance examinations: No new reported enhanced vigilance examinations since Sunday, January 30th, 2021

Intelligence Landscape

BLUF: At this time (04FEB2022:1330), the overall threat to CBSA officers and infrastructure is low.

Regional POE Impacts:

ATL:

- NIL

Quebec:

- As of February 3, 2022, Media reports that more than 100 vehicles, the first of several expected convoys, arrived in Quebec City on Thursday night in advance of a protest planned for Saturday, February 5, 2022 at the National Assembly buildings in support of the ongoing Ottawa protest

GTA:

- On February 4, 2022, as of 17:00 EST, partner agencies report Toronto Police has closed roads around hospital row proactively for the planned protest at Queen's Park. Media is reporting farm vehicles are assembled in the area in advance of tomorrow's protest.
- On February 4, 2022, at 10:52 EST, the region reported that a truck convoy to Queen's Park is scheduled in the GTA at approximately 10:00 on February 5, 2022. There are 7 meet up locations across the GTA which appear to be large malls/shopping centres. There may be impacts to BBTCA, TPIA and other CBSA offices in the area. -Communications is monitoring the event. An all staff message will be disseminated to alert employees of the convoy and anticipated impacts.

SOR:

Bluewater Bridge:

- On February 4, 2022, SOR IEOD reported credible information s.37 [REDACTED] that a convoy / slow roll is planned in the area of the Blue Water Bridge in Sarnia on Sunday, February 6, 2022, with potential of a blockade using farm tractors in order to block traffic in eastbound lanes of the 402 Highway. Blockage of this highway may have POE impacts as commercial traffic will not be able to depart the CBSA compound.
- No current activity.

Ambassador Bridge:

- On February 4, 2022, as of 1600 hrs, SOR IEOD open source reviews identified various posts for a blockade at the Ambassador Bridge. Some posts state that participants will start to congregate at 09:00 on Saturday, February 5, 2022, with other social media posts listing 12:00 as the potential start time.
- On February 4, 2022 at 17:00 EST, SOR reported that the slow roll protests appeared to be completed for the day in the Windsor area.
- As of February 4, 2022 at 11:44EST, Commercial Operations reported that slow roll / convoy vehicles were in the vicinity of the Ambassador Bridge, driving on Huron Church northbound and southbound. Some employees had difficulty reporting to work, but otherwise no impact to operations at this time.

Niagara:

On February 4, 2022, as of 1600 EST SOR IEOD reported uncorroborated information s.37 of various convoys being organized in and around the Niagara Region. There appears to be no nexus to any CBSA POE's, as social media posts showing possible convoy routes away from any POEs; the ultimate final destination being Toronto.

PRA:

Coutts:

- RCMP are anticipating significant protest activities in and around the village of Coutts, the port of Coutts, and the highway leading from Lethbridge to Coutts on the weekend. Their focus is on managing the protesters (300-400) in the area on horseback and crowds expected to accumulate. Protestors on horseback plan to ride down to the village of Coutts and into the rodeo grounds which are located along the border. A contingent of horseback riders may be arriving on the US side (adjacent to the rodeo grounds).
- Increased discussion with the RCMP in terms of their sustained presence at the POE (as a command post). POE can accommodate.
- US Tow Truck Drivers – Their attendance will be triggered at RCMP request and they will be responsible for informing the tow companies of the vaccinations requirements for entering Canada. RCMP has proactively contacted up to 20 tow companies in Montana and almost all have indicated they would NOT attend. Entrance will be coordinated by Chief Operations if/when request comes.

Situational Awareness

- Next 24 hrs is critical. Concerns were expressed at the RCMP briefing, based on similar type events, the next 24-48 hours have the highest potential for something to go wrong. The weekend and warm weather will bring more people to the site and to the new protest at the RCMP-held checkpoint, and fatigue and frustration by protestors and anti-protestors may lead to escalation or possible violence and biggest threat to officer safety.
 - Media reports that there has been no movement of the Coutts protestors toward Edmonton. Coutts protestors are reported to be bringing in additional supplies.
1. Carway, Alberta – normal scheduled from 08:00 to 18:00 hours (MT) – 7 days week; temporary expansion to 08:00 to 22:00 hours (MT) 7 days week
 2. Del Bonita, Alberta – normal scheduled from 09:00 to 17:00 hours (MT) – Monday to Friday; temporary expansion to 09:00 to 22:00 hours (MT) 7 Monday to Friday¹

¹The CBSA and CBP are closely monitoring operations at ports of entry in Southern Alberta and may seek to expand operations to include Saturday and Sunday at Del Bonita should protest activity impede the highway north of Coutts. At this time, there is no further requirement to extend operations at this location.

Carway:

- February 4, 2022 - As of 1400 hrs, the convoy is no longer at POE or visible on highway. No operational impact. Free moving traffic North and South bound.
- February 4, 2022 - As of 1240 hrs the region reported a convoy of vehicles in the duty free parking lot North of POE and rolling north/south on Highway 2. It is estimated that 20 or more vehicles are honking and cheering. There have been no interactions with BSO's. Traffic flow remains normal; all vehicles north bound flowing freely

PAC:

- Pacific region has noted an increase in online posts from BC residents calling for BC to create its own version of the Coutts-style blockade. Online posts do not indicate a firm plan at this time. An individual based in Surrey, BC claims to have a large group of trucks ready to either create a border blockade or travel to the Parliament in Victoria, BC on February 5th (Saturday).

Other from PS:

- February 4, 2022 - Media reports that the Ottawa Police Chief and city officials have received death threats from truck convoy protestors (unconfirmed).
- February 3, 2022 – As of 17:00hrs, ET, a NOTAM was issued for airspace restrictions over the following areas:
 - Parliament Hill - extended until February 7, 2022
 - Queen's Park, Toronto - until February 9, 2022
 - Coutts, (Milk River) Alberta – until February 9, 2022
 - Quebec City, Quebec (unconfirmed) – until Feb 8, 2022
- February 3, 2022 – Public Safety Minister Mendicino has [Tweeted](#) that he has approved a request from the City of Ottawa for additional RCMP officers in the city. Ottawa Police Chief will speak at a news conference at 09:00 on February 4, 2022. OPS Intelligence suggests 300-400 more trucks, 1000-2000 more protestors and up to 1000 counter protestors could arrive downtown this weekend. Heavy barricades and road closures will be employed to manage traffic, as police move to isolate and contain people inside the “red zone” in front of Parliament Hill.

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